l: Kolarz J-4 (no date) 1954 RR1 Siberia RR1

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1. THE SOUTH-EASTERN PART OF THE SOVIET FAR EAST

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Copyright

2. THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE IN THE NORTH PACIFIC

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GUIDE TO THE RR1 SIBERIA FILE

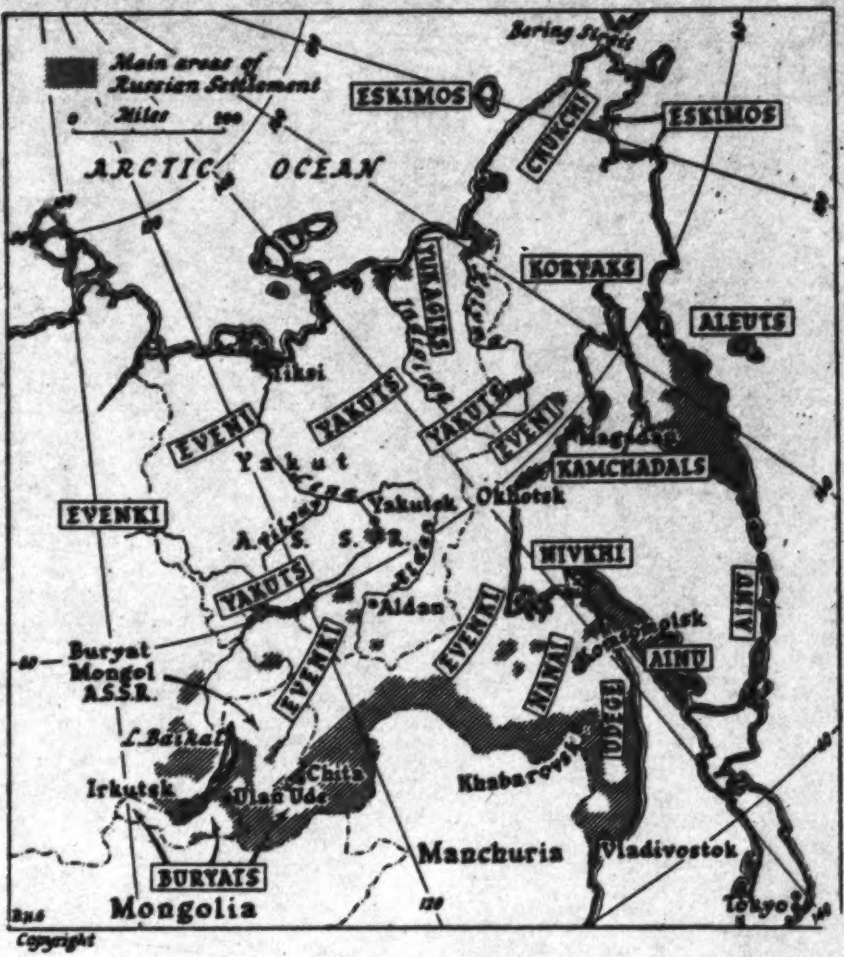
[The RR1 Siberia file contains general data on modern Asiatic Russia and its peoples, either exclusive or inclusive of Russian Central Asia. To the Soviets, this area includes all of the eastern regions whose waters empty into the Pacific and whose climate is under the influence of the Pacific and are separated from other parts of the Soviet Union by mountains. All of the area east of Lake Baikal and the entire Pacific coast from Vladivostok on the south to the Chuckchee peninsula on the north is included in this region. 3: Thiel, however, includes the area of Transbaikal since the area is connected economically more closely with the east than the west, and "... one could try to designate Transbaykal directly as the platform of the position of the Soviet Union in East Asia." (3: Thiel, p. 1). The area covers 3,850,000 square kilometers, which is more than fifteen times the size of Great Britain and northern Ireland or seventeen times the area of France.

The native people of Siberia speak a number of varied languages. Fifty-eight percent of them speak Turkic languages. This includes the Yakuts and Dolgans. Twenty-seven percent speak Mongolic languages, mostly represented by the Buryats. The Tunguso-Manchurian speakers, e.g., the Tungus, constitute 6% of the population. In northwest Siberia the native languages are Ugric and Samoyedic. Together they constitute 5.7% of the indigenous population. The Paleoasiatic speakers, e.g., the Chuckchee, Koryak, and Italmen, account for only 3% of the native population while the Eskimo-Aleuts are only 0.3%.

Russians have been colonizing Siberia since the end of the 16th century. By the late 17th century, the Russians already outnumbered the native population. After the abolition of serfdom in 1861, great numbers of Russians started migrating to Siberia, but the greatest wave of immigration occured after the construction of the Transiberia Railway in the early 20th century. Population figures indicate that between 1926 and 1939, there was a 75% population increase in Siberia, the result of Russian immigration. Population estimates for 1950 vary considerably. 1: Kolarz gives a figure of 4,200,000, while 3: Thiel, who includes the Transbaikal area, gives a figure of 6,300,000. Estimates on the basis of 1959 figures indicate that there were approximately 1,200,000 native people. Population density reached a high of about 20/sq. km. in the more urban areas, while the mean was only 1.6/ sq. km.

There are four sources in the RR1 file, one of which is a translation from German. The sources are not numbered continuously, numbers 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 do not appear at this time. The most basic and general source is 3: Thiel. It is a comprehensive study of the physical and cultural geography of the area including Transbaikal. 1: Kolarz is also quite general but its emphasis on the Russian colonization and its minority policies. 4: U.S. Army is a brief article on political and economic activities of the Kolyma area. 10: Laufer is a brief article on the origin of the word shaman. He traces its origin to the Turkish-Tungusic speakers. 10: Laufer is composed of the old-style typed file slips and lacks the OWC codes. This file contains only general information and should be treated as a background or introductory file to other more specific files, such as the Samoyed, Yakut, Gilyak, Chuckchee, Kamchadal, and Koryak files. The file was processed from the early 1950's to 1956.]

1: Kolarz J-4 (no date) 1954 RR1 Siberia *RR1*



3. THE ABORIGINES OF THE SOVIET FAR EAST

3: Thiel--379 K-4,5 (no date) 1953 RR1 Siberia RR1

Section A

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Map of the Soviet Far East

--3: Thiel--380 K-4,5 (no date) 1953 RR1 Siberia RR1

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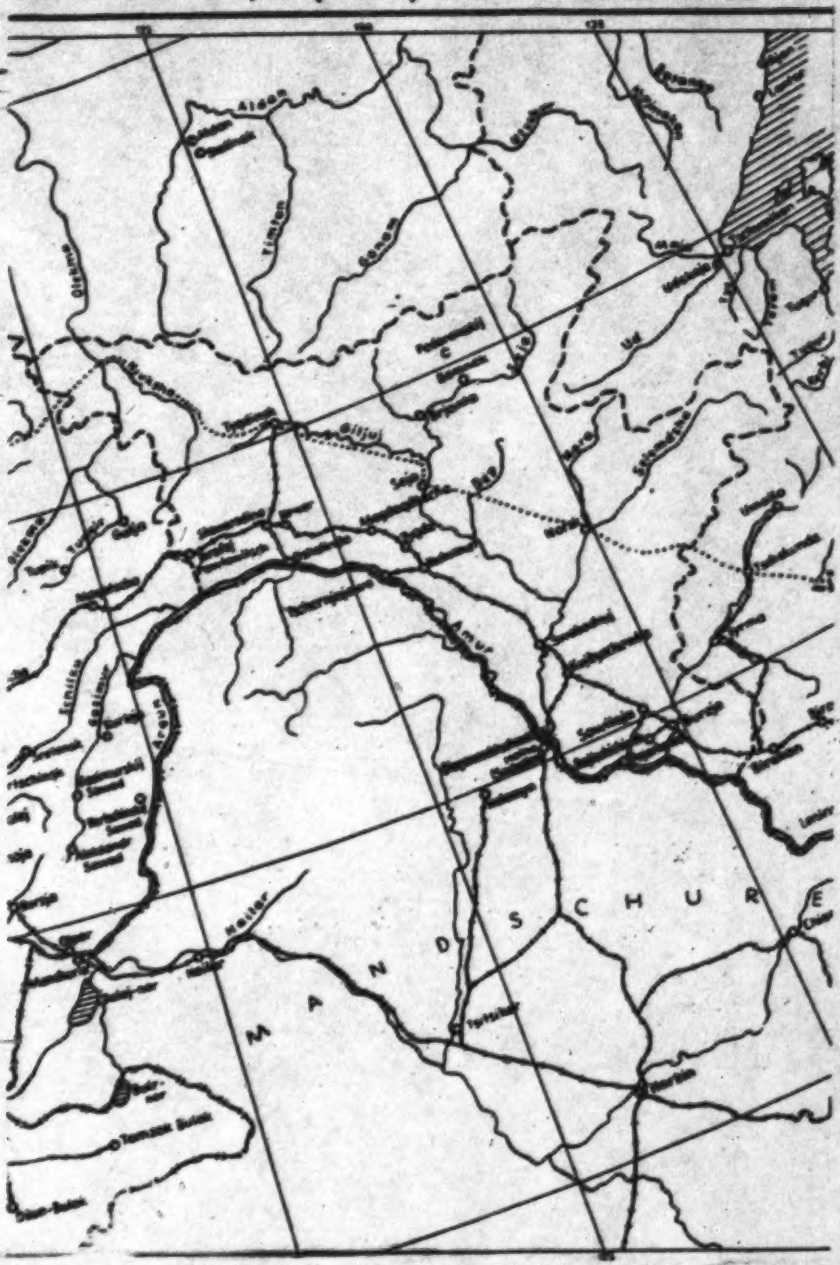

Section B

Map of the Soviet Far East

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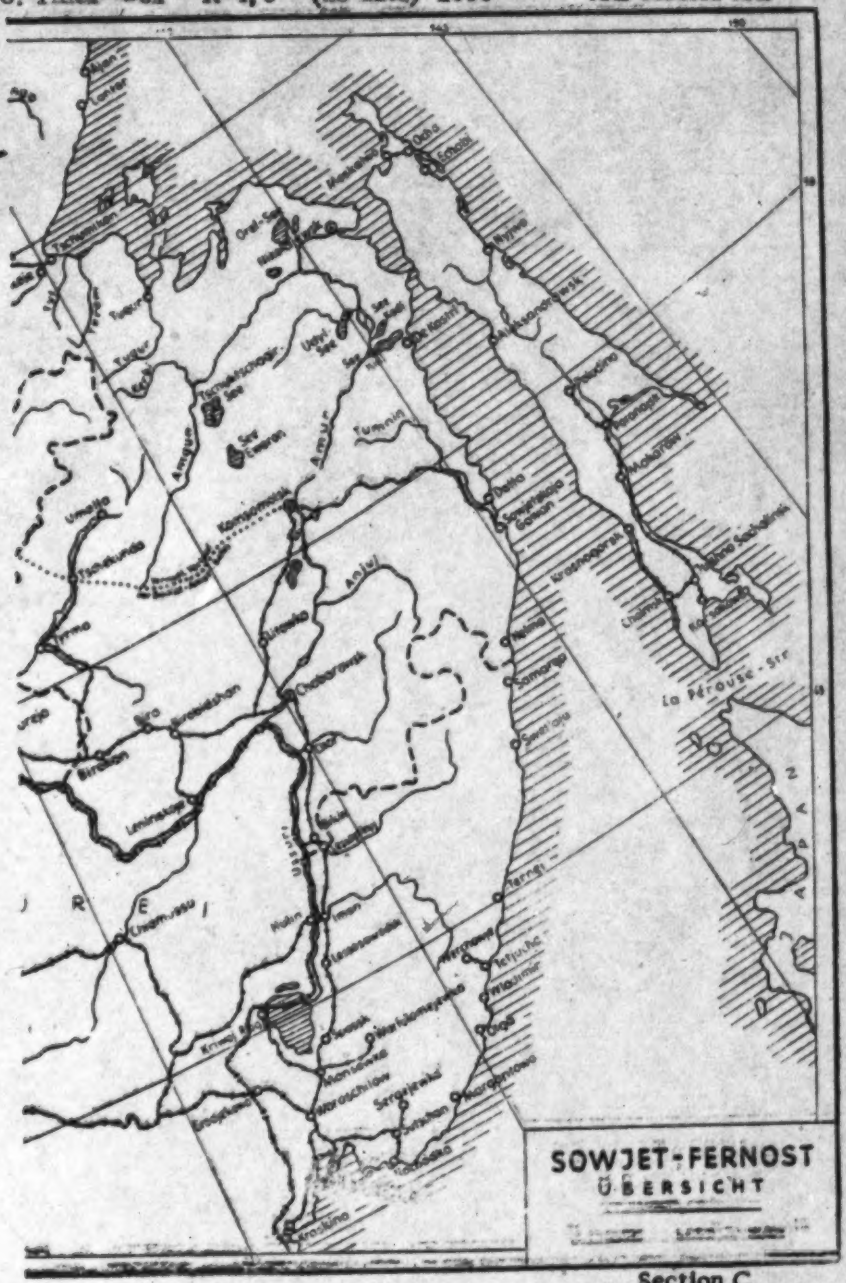

Map of the Soviet Far East